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Postal anomalies and their effects...

POSTAL ANOMALIES
and
THEIR EFFECTS

Debate in
The Senate of Canada
Feb. 22nd, 1905.

SPEECHES BY

SIR GEORGE DRUMMOND, K.C.M.G.

THE HON. MR. SCOTT
Secretary of State, Leader of the Senate.

SIR MACKENZIE BOWELL, K.C.M.G.
Ex-Premier of Canada

SIR RICHARD CARTWRIGHT, G.C.M.G.
Minister of Trade and Commerce.

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THE GAZETTE PRINTING CO.
MONTREAL, CANADA

IMPERIAL POSTAL CHARGES

RESOLUTION

Hon. Sir GEORGE DRUMMOND rose to—

Call the attention of the Senate to certain anomalies in the postal charges and move the following resolution :—

That the attention of the government be directed to the local, foreign and imperial postal charges with the view of remedying certain inequalities therein, and the Senate affirms the principle that the conveyance of letters, newspapers, books, periodicals, &c., should be at a lower scale of charges within the empire than at the time ruling with any foreign country.

He said : In rising to propose this Resolution I have to ask the indulgence of honourable members while I submit some facts and figures bearing on the case. I shall endeavour to be as brief as possible, and not enter upon more than a very general review of the postal charges in this and other countries. I desire to draw the attention of this House to one or two of the existing charges between this country and the United States and the United Kingdom and to show, if it is possible to do so—as I think you will agree it is—that there are very wide and serious discrepancies in the rates current as between these countries. Take for example the rates on letters. In Canada two cents per ounce is the present rate for the conveyance of letters all over the continent both in this country and in the United States, while to England and the empire two cents covers only half an ounce : in other words, the rate is double that charged on letters to the United States. My resolution calls for an expression of the opinion of this honourable House that the rates within the empire should be lower than those at the time ruling with any foreign country. I have mentioned the discrepancy in reference to letters. The same discrepancy exists with

regard to post cards. In Canada and to the United States they are conveyed for one cent each, while to England and the empire generally the rate is two cents, again double. But the most serious discrepancy occurs in the postage rates for newspapers, magazines, and periodicals, which Canada conveys to England at the rate of ½ cent per pound, while the rate from England to Canada is no less than eight cents per pound, and the rate from the United States to Canada is one cent per pound. It is difficult to imagine on what principle the imperial government proceeds in charging a rate of eight cents per pound. It is in itself a monstrous rate, equivalent to $175 per ton, or say £36 per ton. In these days of cheap conveyance such a rate is absolutely unjustifiable. It is quite true that mails from the United Kingdom have to cross the ocean, but it is equally true that the cost of conveyance across the ocean is much less than land conveyance, and if you take the extent of the United States and of Canada itself, if a rate of one cent per pound covers the cost of the land carriage, there is certainly something seriously wrong in charging eight cents per pound for conveying the mails across the ocean. So much is it the fact that ocean conveyance is cheaper than land conveyance, that I have seen it stated and I fully believe it, that in the province of Ulster, Ireland, they find the cheapest way to send the produce of the north of Ireland to London would be to ship it to New York and back again. The charge of eight cents per pound is totally unjustifiable, and it is to the credit of our post office, that it has countered such a charge by a rate of half a cent per pound in return. I could undertake to do the conveyance from Great Britain to this country for one-tenth of the current rate and make a handsome profit on it. Seventeen dollars and a half a ton, which is just about one-tenth of the rate actually charged, is at least equivalent to any possible charge which could be incurred for the conveyance of this literature on the steamers now plying on the ocean. But I shall proceed to show that this rate, which the Postmaster General of England imagines is a source of revenue, is evaded in substance and in fact. I am

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rather amused, and you will be I have no doubt, at the following remark of the Postmaster General in the 49th report of the Post Office Department in 1903, the last bearing any reference to the subject. The Postmaster General says:

> In reference to representations from the Canadian Post Office, I have agreed to accept newspapers and other periodicals from Canada for delivery in the United Kingdom prepaid only, at the Canadian domestic rates of postage. I regret that I have been unable to recommend to your Lordships the adoption of these very low rates in the reverse direction. I am of opinion that any rate of postage adopted for Canada must be eventually applied to all other parts of the British empire and I do not see any present justification for so wide and costly an extension of this unremunerative post.

I have already said that I really believe that instead of the rate being unremunerative, it is such an exaggerated rate that, as in all such cases, it is sure to be evaded, and evaded it is. An institution called the American News Company, doing business in New York, imports all this literature by express at $2 per hundred pounds to New York, that is two cents a pound, and then posting it by the United States post at one cent a pound, delivers it in Canada for three cents a pound, so that the Postmaster General is to this extent cheated out of his revenue. Probably, if he reduced the rate to three cents, he would command the business and make a handsome profit, but he charges eight cents a pound and kills the goose that lays the golden egg.

I ask this honourable House to consider the effect of this prohibitive rate, as compared with the rate charged by the United States, on the Canadian bookseller and d[illegible]ers. The Canadian bookseller has this before him: If [illegible] an order for a subscription for an English mag[illegible] lustrated paper, he is in the first place charged eig[illegible] pound by the British post office, and then he has to pay [illegible] the Canadian post office one cent a pound in addition for the purpose of having his wares distributed, unless, inde[illegible]

and the subscriber happen to be in the same city, when he can do it by hand without the intervention of the post office. So he has to compete with an institution which can do business for three cents a pound, while if he employs the legitimate post office facilities, the postage on his wares amounts to nine cents a pound. Now that is a very serious thing. I may here say that the addition of the one cent rate is of comparatively recent date. Prior to the adoption of it the wares were carried free by the Canadian government. The addition of this one cent on a subscription for one year to the 'Graphic' is equivalent to 75 cents, which of itself is an important item and must at once throw the business into the hands of the American News Company. You ask probably, as it occurred to me, cannot the Canadian bookseller evade the English post office in the same way that the United States bookseller does? but he is met by the express company, which is, so far as I know, a United States institution; while they carry such wares to New York for $2 per hundred pounds, they charge $4.00 to Montreal, and a proportionately high rate to other parts of the Dominion. Altogether, it appears to me that this rate is destructive to the business of the Canadian bookseller. It affects other classes also. I call every member of this House to witness, if he has not observed for himself, that the supply of reading matter of a light character is almost entirely monopolized by United States publishers, and the majority of English papers and magazines which come into this country are reprints coming from the United States and filled with United States advertisements. A Canadian magazine is almost an impossibility. Canada is flooded with United States literature and Canadian manufacturers are met with the free distribution of the advertisements of United States wares. This outrageous condition of things is productive of many serious consequences. The United States magazine comes in filled with advertisements of the United States wares illustrated freely and distributed gratis, because out of the one cent a pound charged for the conveyance by post, the Canadian post office gets nothing.

The charge of one cent a pound goes entirely to the United States government. If the publisher of a magazine in this country, with a limited circulation, struggling with the opposition so improperly created by the flooding of the country with United States literature, has to import materials of any kind, type plates, prints or process plates, which are now so common, he is charged duty on them, but if a book is made up and printed on United States paper it comes in free. An arrangement made with the United States for the conveyance of this literature seems a very easy thing. It seems fair to say to this country, no doubt they do, if you will exchange rates with ourselves, we will carry all your magazines that you may send to us, and you will carry all we can supply to you; but in working it out, look at the discrepancy which results. The number of publications, including newspapers, magazines and periodicals of all kinds, published in the United States, according to the census of 1900 was 22,[illegible]2, of magazines monthly and quarterly 3,181; while the total number of publications in Canada is 1,227, of magazines, 169, so in entering into an arrangement of that kind we have to consider this difference.

I do not say that all the United States magazines come into this country, but a very considerable proportion of them does; and if you take the 3,181 magazines on one side of the border which have the right to come across here without any contribution to our revenue, and in return you get a similar right to distribute Canadian magazines in the United States to the number of 169, it surely does not require much argument to prove that the bargain is very lopsided. In addition to all that, I have looked up some facts with regard to some of the magazines which circulate in this country. I am not going to trouble the House with details or statistics of the whole or even any considerable number of them; I will take only two. One magazine weighs 14 ounces, and is carried, as above stated, for seven-eighths of one cent to all parts of Canada. It contains 159 pages of reading matter and 106 of advertisements, on which there are 303 adver-

tisements. Another magazine weighs 19 ounces, is carried for one and three-sixteenths cents, contains 112 pages of reading matter and 183 pages of advertisements, on which are published 457 separate advertisements. The more popular of the English magazines are now printed in the United States, and while they do not have anything like the number of advertisements to which I have alluded, they still have a fair proportion of United States advertisements. As against that we have nothing to offset, no quid pro quo, and I must say that it appears to me the manufacturers and producers in this country have a reasonable cause for complaint when they see the advertisement of rival wares to their own distributed at the expense of our government gratis, while if they, on their side, attempt to distribute advertisements or catalogues, they have to pay to their own government two cents per ounce. The difference is very material, but if they are satisfied with it, I have nothing more to say. A strong representation made to England, backed by the weight of this Senate, might probably fortify the hands of our government in dealing with this question, and do infinite good. I have no cognizance of the representations which have been made by our government to the British post office on the subject, but the inference is very plain that if we are willing to carry our magazines and literature of that kind to England for one-half cent per pound, as against the eight cents per pound charged by the imperial government, our government is not to blame. I have, in my resolution, made this statement, that—

> The Senate affirms the principle that the conveyance of letters, newspapers, books, periodicals, &c., should be at a lower scale of charges within the empire than at the time ruling with any foreign country.

Does that require any long argument? To my mind, it does not. This country has already shown how it stands by its preferential tariff, which, while I have always maintained it was rather a crude method of settling the difficulty, at least showed what the feeling of this country was, and I

know that the country was behind the government when it established that preference. It shows that the doctrine that there should be a preference within the bounds of the empire was the practically unanimous sense of this country; not only so, but we led the way in the policy of reprisals administered to a powerful European government, a policy which was, in 1867, inaugurated by Bismarck himself, when the German government had to deal with other countries. He put it in the most specific shape that resorting to reprisals, as he termed it, was the only way of dealing with foreign countries which discriminated against the exports of Germany. I am not going to deal with the general imperial question, but this I will say, that imperial sentiment, which is the deliberate policy of this country as affirmed, is the strongest and most effective bond of union in the empire.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—Hear, hear.

Hon. Sir GEORGE DRUMMOND—And that in dealing with it in the miserable haggling way the British post office does, they are trifling with an important factor in the spread of imperial feeling and sympathy.

The facts above stated appear to me to make a case for a speedy review of the present postal rates by the imperial and our own governments.

They prove that the present rates are in their operations unjust, partial, and prejudicial to the interests of several classes of our fellow citizens:—

1st. To the booksellers and distributors of literature who are sacrificed in favour of American organizations having the same business ends;

2nd. To our manufacturers and producers who find the wares of their rivals in the United States advertised broadcast and distributed at the expense of the government of Canada;

3rd. To the British publishers who have to meet the competition in this market of literature artifically cheapened at the expense of the American and Canadian governments;

4th. To the literary men and publishers of our own country, who have to maintain an unequal struggle against a flood of foreign productions;

Finally. In regard to the motion I have placed on record and hope to obtain the acceptance of by this honourable House, the imperial note with which it concludes is, I think, in strict accord with the present policy and practice of this country.

Every one of my hearers knows that our relations with the motherland and other portions of the empire are largely governed by sentiment. The debates now going on in England are almost entirely taken up with this subject, and the collateral one of retaliation.

Now in this country we are in both subjects in advance of the parent state, we are in the fore-front in the practical adoption of a preferential tariff. We have shown the way to a policy of reprisal in our tariff relations with a great European power, and I cannot conceive that any reasonable objection can exist to the terms of my motion.

The party debates now running their course in Great Britain, centre on the proposal to give a fiscal preference within the bounds of the empire. Both sides recognize the value of the imperial sentiment evinced by the colonies, or affect to do so, but while one party advocates a tariff preference as a means of fostering this bond of union, by the consolidating influence of mutual interest, the other scouts any such step as a needless sacrifice, preferring to leave things to their own course. Indeed, the leader airily waves aside all such proposals as 'squalid bonds.'

Needless to say the latter view is not the view held in this country, but having made our preference and maintained it for years, having shown the practical value of the principle, even at some considerable sacrifices, we wait the answer of the mother country without excitement or haste. But I may argue that, as both sides are so far agreed in regarding the loyal sentiment of the colonies as of importance, they must be blind indeed if they can regard with in-

difference the practical monopoly of the reading matter supplies of this country, now held by foreign literature. It is no exaggeration to say that the bookstalls of this country are monopolized by American literature and periodicals, and that the appearance of an English or Canadian example is a rare exception.

Now, I have nothing to say about the quality of the supplies we receive ; there are good, bad and indifferent examples, with, I am prepared to say, a preponderance of the best; but it is not Canadian nor is it English in tone, temper or tendency, occasionally very much the reverse, and generally and quite naturally, exhibiting a spirit of propagandism of American ideas and influences.

The extent to which this supply has monopolized our market is largely due to the absurd, even monstrous, exactions of the English post office. I thank God that the good sense of our people has hitherto resisted and kept them immune to influences of this kind, but I cannot believe that any statesman can regard with indifference the continuance of this condition of things. 'Continual dropping wears the stone' is a very old and a very true saying.

I have, as the evidence appears to show, more or less assumed that our government are not to blame for the present absurd not to say dangerous state of things; but I shall be gratified to have an assurance that I am correct in my assumption, and I trust that by the adoption of the motion, this honourable House, may strengthen its hands to accomplish a change, which in my opinion, without cost to either of the contracting parties, will go far to remedy a crying evil.

You will observe that I do not advocate any exclusion of American reading matter, but I do most earnestly protest against the practical exclusion—so far as prices can exclude—of the literature and news of our own country by postal regulations and imposts which are not justifiable, and which benefit the revenues of neither our own nor the mother country.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—The hon. senator from Montreal has placed the Senate, and I may say the people of Canada, under an obligation to him for the very prominent way in which he has brought to notice the extraordinary, unwise, unsympathetic, and let me add, unpatrotic policy pursued by the British government in reference to the subject now before the Senate. Some years ago at one of the conferences in London this subject was brought up for consideration. The British government, the Postmaster General more particularly, was pressed, pressed very strongly, to enter into an arrangement with our postal authorities for a reduction of the postage between the two countries. He objected on the ground that the revenue was not an increasing one, that it was not meeting the expenditure and therefore he did not propose to recommend to his colleagues any reduction in the postage. They even went so far as to object to our doing it on the ground that in accordance with the existing arrangement the understanding was that any reduction should be mutual and that therefore it was placing the British government in a rather unenviable position for Canada to lower her rates irrespective of the rates prevailing on material coming from the other side. However, our Postmaster General who, as you all know, is a very energetic gentleman, insisted upon pressing, from his standpoint at all events, and from the policy that was entirely concurred in by the members of the government, that Canada should be at least allowed to reduce her postage to the mother country as an example that might have some influence with the British people, and accordingly, as pointed out by the hon. senator from Montreal, our rates are very much lower than the British rates. The consequences have been very pointedly alluded to ; they are self-evident. If Canada was not really the loyal country it is, we should long before this have been thoroughly impregnated with the United States sentiment. Go into the reading rooms and into our family circles, and you find United States newspapers, and magazines everywhere, simply because such a tax is attached to British

periodicals that it is quite impossible for the Canadian people to subscribe to them. It does not seem to strike the minds of the British statesmen that what we read from day to day, the sentiments that we gather from the newspapers, magazines and periodicials circulating in the country, make public opinion, and, as I have said, if we were not so deeply attached to the mother country it would have a considerable effect in estranging our sentiments. The instances my hon. friend has drawn attention to, the extravagant postal rates charged on periodicals sent from the other side of the Atlantic, have been so admirably put together that I trust his speech will be widely circulated. I shall be exceedingly glad to see that a copy of it goes to the Postmaster General of England, in order that he may learn what the sentiment of Canada is, because I am quite sure on a subject of that kind the gentlemen I see about me echo the sentiments of the Canadian people. The answer placed in my hands by the Department is as follows :—

With reference to the resolution of the Honourable Sir George Drummond respecting some supposed inequalities of postal rates within the empire and beyond it, it may be observed :

1. The Post Office Department is not aware of the inequalities referred to.

2. The Post Office Department would point out that in the absence of an agreement between two or more countries as to what the postal rates between them shall be, the rates are required by the Universal Postal Convention to be those fixed by the convention as applicable to all countries. The Post Office Department has for some years endeavoured to secure special agreements with the mother country and different parts of the empire for reduced rates on letters, newspapers and periodicals within the empire with the following results

In 1898 a convention was held in the city of London, England, of representatives of all countries within the empire. At this convention it was decided, on the motion of the Canadian Postmaster General, that the letter rate within the empire should be one penny per half ounce instead of two pence half penny, which is the Universal Postal Convention rate. This reduction is now in full force as regards Canada, and letters originating in Canada are now transmitted to every part of the British empire at the one penny rate, and the rate from all places within the empire to Canada, except Australia, has been reduced to this rate. Australia for its own reasons [illegible] unwilling to reduce its outgoing rate.

As to rates on newsp[illegible] and periodicals, at the Colonial Conference, held in London, England, in 1902, Sir William Mulock moved a resolution, which was carried, recommending that each government within the empire be allowed to reduce to whatever limit it chose the rate on its

newspapers and periodicals for transmission to every part of the empire. Since the passage of that resolution the Canadian Post Office Department has reduced its rates on Canadian newspapers and periodicals from Canada to practically every part of the British empire to a rate equal to the ordinary domestic rate within Canada. The mother country has not reciprocated nor, in fact, has any other part of the empire, but it rests with them to make the reduction whenever they see fit. The rate from the house of publication in Canada on newspapers and periodicals to the rest of the empire is one-half of one cent per pound. The rates from other parts of the empire to Canada vary, that from the mother country being one cent for two ounces or eight cents per pound.

We, of course, educate public opinion in England, and it is a question which the commercial and the manufacturing interests in the United Kingdom ought to note, because, as has been pointed out very forcibly by the hon. gentleman from Montreal, people are led to buy through the advertisements that are placed in their hands. They get no English advertisements. They do not know what the manufacturers there produce, and do not give them any orders. We in Canada are an active go-ahead people. We do not wait for three, or four, or five weeks, or a month, to make up our minds what we are going to do, but purchase on the spur of the moment; and, consequently, when the people of Canada have before them those advertisements of the various manufacturers and industries in the United States, they buy largely from them, simply because information is not furnished by English manufacturers. If, therefore, my hon. friend's address were well distributed in England, and the attention of the agents in Birmingham, Manchester and other centres called to it, pressure might be brought to bear on the Postmaster General to change his views on this important subject. With the patriotic sentiment now existing, and with the desire in Great Britain to develop the imperial feeling, one would think that that motive alone was sufficiently strong to have prompted them to take a more liberal view with the Canadian government to place the postal rates at the lowest possible point.

Hon. Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL—There is only one point which the hon. Secretary of State missed in his explanation, and it is this: that when the first steps were taken towards

the reduction of the postage in Canada, it was found to be a contravention of some of the provisions of the Berne Convention, and consequently those blocks in the way had to be removed before the reduction could take place. That is one objection that the Postmaster General of England and the imperial government took to the action of the Canadian government at that time. However, that has been removed, and I think the hon. gentleman who has brought this matter before the senate deserves the thanks, not only of the Senate, but of the country, on the lucid and clear manner in which he has put the case before us. I am very glad to see that the leader of the government in this House echoes, not only the sentiments which he has uttered, but adopts the policy which my hon. friend has laid down. I might call the attention of the Senate to another fact that was very strongly brought to light by the remarks of the hon. gentleman from Montreal. There is a provision in the tariff for the taxing of advertising literature. I have often thought that these magazines to which my hon. friend referred, are actually an evasion of that clause in the Tariff Act. Take the case to which he called the attention of the Senate, that, in a magazine containing 120 or 130 pages of reading matter there is a larger number of pages of advertising matter. Now, if that magazine were exclusively an advertisement it would be taxed, but the duty is evaded by the manner in which it is introduced into the country, advertising all the industries of the union and almost everything they have to sell. I would suggest to my hon. friend to bear in mind, if he should propose this session or another session, to amend the Tariff Act, to deal with that question, which is apparently a small matter, but still an incongruity that exists in all Tariff Acts No one knows better than my hon. friend, who sits alongside of the Secretary of State (Sir Richard Cartwright) the difficulty in framing a tariff to meet all the objections that can be taken to it, and to meet all the difficulties that present themselves in the way of an introduction of different articles into this country. Take the 'Book-

lovers' Magazine,' for instance. It is a capital magazine, but I think I am safe in saying that at least one-half of it is filled with advertisements of all kinds bringing every industry in the United States under the notice of the Canadian reader, which has, to a certain degree, the effect pointed out by the hon. Secretary of State. That is the principal point that induced me to rise to offer the suggestion that that should be provided for at least. The remarks made by my hon. friend contain so much information directly to the point that one can scarcely conceive it possible that, with these few facts before them, the British government will permit these incongruities to continue. Let me say here that I am glad to see that the hon. gentleman from Wellington has given notice of a motion almost in the same direction, although upon another subject. It is high time that the legislative bodies of this country, both the Senate and House of Commons, should express themselves decidedly and positively upon these questions which militate, to such a great extent, against the commerce of this country, injuring our prospects in almost every respect in which they deal with them. What really is a puzzle to every Canadian is that there are statesmen in England who hold the views they do upon questions of this kind when dealing with other portions of the empire, while, at the same time it is regrettable to read the statements which they make, which are favourable to the intercourse from a commercial standpoint with other parts of the world, when it actually militates against their own colonies and a portion of their own empire. I hope the effect of the motion which is made will be to remove these incongruities, and place us in a position equal, at least, to that of the United States. One can scarcely conceive it possible that in the introduction of magazines by direct importation, the country loses five cents and on other matters six cents per pound—that is, if they send them round by the United States instead of directly to Canada. These incongruities certainly should be removed, if it is possible to remove them, and if they are not removed it should not be the fault of Canada in not calling their attention to it.

Hon. Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT—I quite agree, not merely with the hon. gentleman who has made this motion but also with the hon. gentleman who has just resumed his seat, that it is very desirable that the Canadian parliament should call the attention of the British parliament to discrepancies such as he has pointed out. I have also noted, and noted with great regret, that there has been a disposition, and not of yesterday, on the part of a great many persons in authority, in Great Britain to ignore the just claims of the Confederation of Canada which, I may remark, stands on a very different footing from an ordinary colony, and is daily and hourly growing in national importance, as has been shown very recently by the addition which has been made to the provincial status of Canada in the Northwest. There has been a great disposition to ignore the just demands of the people of Canada on various points, and I have always hoped that the generous treatment which we have accorded of late years to British manufacturers would incline the British parliament, when these things are properly brought before them, to give us, particularly in such cases as this, a correspondingly generous treatment. The hon. gentleman who spoke last called attention to another point of no inconsiderable importance. I believe it is quite true that a very large number of these United States magazines which are largely circulated in Canada have been very little better than advertising mediums for a considerable length of time. That tendency has been very much more manifested of late years, and I shall not fail to call the attention of my hon. friends, and particularly the Finance Minister, to the question whether magazines which are really advertising mediums should not be treated, if it can be done—the difficulties are considerable as the hon. gentleman knows—quoad their advertisements at any rate, on a somewhat different footing from what may be called the more purely literary magazines which often contain subjects of great interest and great moment to every body in Canada as well as in the United States. As for the matter now in hand, I think the hon. senator from Montreal

(Sir George Drummond) has made out a very clear case indeed, and I may add that several of the officers connected with my department have called attention already to the facts which he has brought before us, and to the great advantage to be derived from a free circulation between Canada and England of the various periodicals and magazines published in both countries. There is no doubt whatever that the English people and the English government are standing very much in their own light by putting an almost prohibitory rate on the distribution of English literature throughout Canada. As to the best mode of remedying it, I think I may venture to say that the discussion here will not be thrown away on my hon. friend the Postmaster General.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—Hear, hear.

Hon. Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT—And we will hail every such effort on the part of this honourable House, or of any other body in Canada, as greatly strengthening his hands. I certainly, for my part, congratulate my hon. friend from Montreal on the manner in which he has brought this matter, before the House, and I hope that, with the assistance of the several Canadians who, we are happy to know, are among the members of the British parliament, we may be able, within a reasonably short space of time, to report that a very, considerable modification has been made in these oppressive regulations now in force by the British post office authorities.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—It might be well that the Committee on Printing should make a note that an extra number of copies of this particular debate will be very desirable in order that hon. gentlemen might send them abroad to our friends in England. Our agents in Great Britain should have possession of them and they should be liberally distributed. It will have a very good effect.

Hon. Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL—That could not be done unless it was specially referred to the Printing Committee. If the Committee on Debates should recommend it to the Senate it might be done in that way.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—I hope they will do it.

The motion was agreed to.